

# *Minutes*

New Harmony Bicentennial Commission

September 20, 2011

6:00 p.m. Thralls Opera House

**Present:**

|   |                     |
|---|---------------------|
| Friends of the Working Men's Institute    | Jeanne Maudlin      |
| Garden Club of New Harmony                | Patricia Gosh       |
| Harmonie Associates                       | Donna Creek         |
| Historic New Harmony                      | Christine Crews     |
| New Harmony Business Associates           | Lora Arneberg       |
| New Harmony Kiwanis Club                  | Marcia Lange        |
| New Harmony School Corporation            | Rick Johnson        |
| New Harmony Town Council                  | Linda Warrum (Alt.) |
| The New Harmony Art Galleries             | Maggie Rapp         |
| The Ribeyre Gymnasium Restoration Group   | Addison Lange       |
| Tri Kappa of New Harmony                  | Rita Reynolds       |
| Parks & Recreation/Tree Board             | Johnathan Scott     |
| Plan and Historic Preservation Commission | Mickey Grimm        |
| Working Men's Institute                   | Nathan Maudlin      |

***Also attending:***

Kenyon Bailey (interested citizen)  
David Flanders (interested citizen)  
Jan Kahle (Executive Assistant)  
Ray McConnell (Co-Chairperson)  
Liz Mumford (interested citizen)  
Karen Walker (PR)

***Not present:***

|                                  |                          |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| American Legion Post 370         | Steve Brown/Charles Huck |
| Robert L. Blaffer Foundation     | James Sanders            |
| Masonic Lodge                    | Tom Straw                |
| New Harmony Artist's Guild       | Jenifer Blevins          |
| New Harmony Business Association | Karen Alphonse (Alt)     |
| The New Harmony Art Galleries    | Erika Myers-Bromwell     |
| New Harmony Ministerial Assoc.   | Phyllis Westfall         |
| New Harmony Town Council         | Don Gibbs                |
| Posey County Commissioners       | Ann Greenfield           |
| Red Geranium Enterprises         | Judy Alsop               |
| University of Southern Indiana   | Ed Jones                 |
| Connie Weinzapfel                | Co-Chairperson           |

The New Harmony Bicentennial Commission met on September 20, 2011, at 6:00 p.m. in Thralls Opera House. The minutes were approved as corrected.

#### Committee Reports:

##### I. Logo & Merchandise Committee

Maggie Rapp reported that the committee has received a limited number of applications. They will review these and, if none of them are sufficient, the deadline will be extended to December 1, 2011. This logo will be used on all publicity, t-shirts, caps, etc. After selection by the committee, the logo will be approved by the steering committee. The Logo & Merchandise Committee will be in close contact with Karen Walker for PR related items.

##### II. Event/Activity Committee – a roll call of all organizations attending the meeting was held to inquire if organizations had events to submit for review. Following are the responses:

###### A. Event/Activity Application

Rita Reynolds reported the applications for events are available at the Town Hall, Post office and on the town's web site.

###### B. Plan and Historic Preservation Committee

Mickey Grimm report that the committee had met to brainstorm some ideas. One of their ideas was a parade. Rita Reynolds reported that she is 85% sure that the Tri Kappa will organize a parade during the Capstone Event. After some discussion it was decided that this parade would be the first weekend of the event.

Mickey also reported that the committee had thought about a “permanent legacy”; i.e., a carousel that would encompass the history, natural science, alternative energy and all things New Harmony. It would run by alternative power. Mickey will contact someone he knows in Tennessee that could give guidance. There was discussion about location and the maintenance.

###### C. Parks Board

Johnathan Scott reported that the Parks Board will work on a “releaf” program. They currently have 44 trees; their goal is 200.

###### D. Historic New Harmony

Christine Crews reported that new exhibits at the Atheneum will be completed by 2014. Designers have been contacted.

E. Working Men's Institute

Nathan Maudlin reported that there are no definite plans as yet. But they expect to have plans in place by December 1, 2011. They are also working on the WMI's 175<sup>th</sup> birthday in 2013.

F. Friends of the Working Men's Institute

Jeanne Maudlin reported that they will continue their lecture series and are hoping to have Senator Lugar as one of the speakers.

G. New Harmony Business Associates

Lora Arneberg reported that the NHBA will hold their regular yearly events with the emphasis being on the Bicentennial.

H. New Harmony Art Galleries

Maggie Rapp reported that the New Harmony Art Galleries have not yet made their plans.

I. New Harmony Kiwanis

Marcia Lange reported that they are planning to plant New Harmony Elms in Murphy Park with a plaque recognizing the Bicentennial and on the east side of the Roofless Church (with the Blaffer Foundation approval) in memory of Jane B. Owen.

Kiwanian, Dan Busler, is proposing having four nickel size wooden "coins" in celebration of the Bicentennial.

J. Ribeyre Gym Restoration Group

Addison Lange reported that the RGRG is proposing a 5K run/walk at the beginning of the Capstone Event. Individuals may pay or obtain sponsors and the proceeds will benefit the RGRG.

K. Garden Club of New Harmony

Patricia Gosh reported that the Garden Club of New Harmony will continue to maintain the current gardens and create new gardens. The National Club will be meeting in New Harmony.

They also are proposing a "Garden Day" during the Capstone Event with tours of the gardens of New Harmony. While discussing maps for this event, Lora

Arneberg suggested that we also have architectural maps and a public art map. The Commission agreed this should be included in a proposal to the steering committee.

L. Harmonie Associates

Donna Creek reported at their next meeting, Harmonie Associates will brainstorm ideas. They may be willing to financially support other projects.

M. New Harmony School

Rick Johnson reports that individual classes will be sponsoring various programs. The school has just recently hired a new art teacher and he is hoping to get the art department involved.

II. Cultural/International Exchange Committee

Linda Warrum reported that she had contacted Ken Meyers of Lifestyle Tours about a possible international trip relating to the Bicentennial. Ken reported back to Mick that an 8-10 day trip to Europe would be several thousand dollars and before he made the arrangements, he would like to know the interest. There should be about 30 people to make the trip financially feasible. The trip would probably be in the spring or fall of 2014.

Other discussion involved a trip to Pennsylvania and Washington, DC and an invitation to Harmony and Old Economy Village to attend the Bicentennial events.

III. Fundraising

No report.

IV. Grantwriting

No report.

V. Publicity Plan

Karen Walker will present a full publicity plan at the December meeting. This will include the “key” messages as well as the “who, what and where”. Before a major PR push, the logo will be decided. The national and international media will be included in the Bicentennial publicity.

All publicity will be distributed through Karen. So please before you send anything to the newspaper, etc., make sure that Karen has seen it.

#### Miscellaneous Discussion:

- David Flanders reported that there will not be a Bicentennial stamp but a postmark cancellation is available. He will follow up with this after the logo has been chosen. It can be used during the Capstone Event. Lora Arneberg reported that on-line stamps with the logo are available.
- Marsha Lange will present a proposal for video recording the Bicentennial events at the December Commission meeting.
- Liz Mumford and Maggie Rapp (with assistance from others) will begin to work on a possible pageant for 2014. Liz hopes that the “Under the Beams” concerts can be expanded and Rita Reynolds will investigate the possibility of getting other music by local musicians and possibly even a “Bicentennial Suite”. These events would be during the Capstone Event.
- Nathan Maudlin asked who and how often the Bicentennial Commission would be reporting to the New Harmony Town Board. The ordinance establishing the commission requires that quarterly reports be made to the town council. Mick McConnell will make the required quarterly reports.
- David Flanders commented on the possibility of all local web sites relating to New Harmony (i.e., Historic New Harmony, Town of New Harmony, NHBA, etc.) having Bicentennial information on their sites. It was agreed that this is a good idea but all information should be given to Karen Walker before posted.
- Maggie Rapp suggested a time capsule might be a good idea. Rita Reynolds and Rick Johnson will investigate this possibility.
- Mickey Grimm suggested that whiffle ball and volleyball tournaments be a part of the celebration.
- Jan Kahle reported that the P.O. Box for the Bicentennial has been changed to P.O. Box 200; the Bicentennial is now on Face Book for posting events, etc.; the Bicentennial office is set-up in the Neef House.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, December 20, 2011, at 6:00 p.m. at the home of Mick and Barb McConnell.